

National Service Impact in the District of Columbia

AmeriCorps

In 2012-2013, the Center for Inspired Teaching engaged 28 full-time AmeriCorps members serving in Washington, DC. The Center for Inspired Teaching is building a better school experience for children by helping teachers move from information providers to instigators of thought. As demonstrated by assessment, more than 150 students in early childhood classrooms of Inspired Teaching Fellows received a quality literacy instruction, and demonstrated measurable gains in school readiness in terms of foundational literacy and writing skills in the 2012-2013 school year. Additionally, AmeriCorps members provided high-quality literacy instruction to more than 160 students in DC elementary classrooms, resulting in significant growth throughout the year.

AmeriCorps NCCC

City Year's mission is to build democracy through citizen service, civic leadership, and social entrepreneurship. City Year's In School & On Track initiative is designed to bring City Year AmeriCorps members to 50 percent of all of the students falling off track in City Year's 21 U.S. locations. Through this partnership, an AmeriCorps NCCC team provided 85 elementary school students with tutoring and assisted 827 at-risk youth through the alternate summer break program. This collaboration was a clear demonstration of the impact that national service can make for the betterment of communities across the country. The Atlantic Region campus is particularly proud of this collaboration as the project was developed and managed by a Class XVI graduate from the Perry Point campus.

AmeriCorps VISTA

The See Forever Foundation's Maya Angelou Public Charter Schools in the District of Columbia are in their second year of an AmeriCorps VISTA project that places four members in service in the areas of data analysis, development, student engagement and curriculum design. The foundation strives to design learning communities in lower-income urban areas where all students, particularly those who have not succeeded in traditional schools, can reach their potential and prepare for college, career, and a lifetime of success. At the Maya Angelou Public Charter School High School located east of the Anacostia River in Ward 7, the program is seeing great success as 73 percent of its graduates enroll in college as compared with approximately 50 percent of local low-income African American high school graduates.

Senior Corps

The United Planning Organization's Foster Grandparent Program has more than 200 volunteers serving in the District of Columbia in various types of educational institutions across the city. From JumpStart to JobCorps, District area seniors are making a difference in young people's lives, helping them achieve academic goals. The accomplishments of the DC Foster Grandparent Program have been highlighted in segments on CNN and "Rock Center with Brian Williams," as well as in recent articles in the Washington Post.

Social Innovation Fund

Operating in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, Venture Philanthropy Partner's (VPP) supports an integrated approach to addressing the education and employment needs of low-income and vulnerable youth and young adults. At scale, the network of VPP-supported nonprofit organizations will directly serve an estimated 20,000 youth. VPP receives annual grants from the Social Innovation Fund of \$2 million per year, which they match dollar-for-dollar. Their six nonprofit subgrantees are collaborating on and contributing data to a common framework that focuses on increasing education and employment outcomes for low-income youth and decreasing the number of disconnected youth in the region. The potential for impact is much greater, as their leveraged investments focus attention on the challenges facing local youth and rigorous evaluations yield lessons with broad implications for the public and youth development sectors.